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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/298,910	04/26/1999	NORIYOSHI SONETAKA	Q54131	2573

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EXAMINER

WEST, LEWIS G

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2681

DATE MAILED: 07/17/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/298,910

Applicant(s)

SONETAKA, NORIYOSHI

Examiner

Lewis G. West

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 June 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10, 12 and 14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10, 12 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 10, 12, and 14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) The invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Menon et al (US 6,208,627).

Regarding claim 10, Menon discloses a radio access system comprising: means for producing dialing signals; and a base station in radio communication with said means for producing dialing signals (col. 25 line 63-col. 26 line 7), said base station including means for deciding whether a dialing signal represents a final digit of a dialed telephone number or not, (col. 26 line 5-21) wherein said means for producing dialing signals includes a telephone set

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having a dial pad with keys, a dialing signal being generated when a key of said dial pad is pushed (col. 4 lines 25-58); and said means for deciding comprises an inter-digit-timer and a means for determining that a dialing signal has not been received for a predetermined period of time. (Col. 26 line 5-21)

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Menon in view of Suonvieri (US 6,047,181).

Regarding claim 12, Menon discloses a radio access system comprising: means for producing dialing signals; and a base station control station in radio communication with said means for producing dialing signals (col. 25 line 63-col. 26 line 7), and a base station including means for deciding whether a dialing signal represents a final digit of a dialed telephone number or not, (col. 26 line 5-21) wherein said means for producing dialing signals includes a telephone set having a dial pad with keys, a dialing signal being generated when a key of said dial pad is pushed (col. 4 lines 25-58); and said means for deciding comprises an inter-digit-timer and a means for determining that a dialing signal has not been received for a predetermined period of time. (Col. 26 line 5-21) Menon does not expressly disclose digit analysis in the base station

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control station. However, Suonvieri discloses that some functions, including timer functions, may be carried out either in the base station or the base station controller. (Col. 5 lines 19-39) It would have therefore been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to perform digit analysis in the base station control station to avoid repeated circuitry in multiple base stations.

Regarding claim 14, Menon discloses a radio access system comprising: means for producing dialing signals; a base station in radio communication with said means for producing dialing signals (col. 25 line 63-col. 26 line 7) and a base station control station in radio communication with said means for producing dialing signals (col. 25 line 63-col. 26 line 7), and a base station including means for deciding whether a dialing signal represents a final digit of a dialed telephone number or not, (col. 26 line 5-21) wherein said means for producing dialing signals includes a telephone set having a dial pad with keys, a dialing signal being generated when a key of said dial pad is pushed (col. 4 lines 25-58); and said means for deciding comprises an inter-digit-timer and a means for determining that a dialing signal has not been received for a predetermined period of time. (Col. 26 line 5-21) Menon does not expressly disclose digit analysis in the base station control station. However, Suonvieri discloses that some functions, including timer functions, may be carried out either in the base station or the base station controller. (Col. 5 lines 19-39) It would have therefore been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to perform digit analysis in the base station control station to avoid repeated circuitry in multiple base stations.

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***Conclusion***

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Zicker et al. (US 5,535,260) is cited as a reference dealing with inter-digit timing in a cellular system.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis G. West whose telephone number is 703-308-9298. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dwayne Bost can be reached on 703-305-4778. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-0377.



Lewis West  
(703) 308-9298  
July 3, 2002



**NAY MAUNG**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**